

## ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for conserving home agent resources in mobile Internet Protocol (IP) deployment is disclosed. In a wireless communication system supporting mobile IP, a registration request message is sent by a mobile node to a home agent. The registration request includes a care-of address. A home address is provided for the mobile node and is associated with the care-of address. The home agent provides an inactivity timer for the mobile node to monitor the communication activity of the mobile node. In addition, the home agent monitors a condition of a resource. When the condition satisfies an overload condition, the home agent starts a reclaiming resources process that utilizes the inactivity timer for the mobile node.